

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 00650 300610Z

21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /058 W

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R 300430Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3498

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHATT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 0650

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT

SUBJECT: SAG COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CALLS FOR RESTRAINT
IN WESTERN SAHARA

1. PRESS JAN 28 REPORTS THAT THE SAUDI COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
DISCUSSED THE SAHARA SITUATION DURING THE CABINET MEETING
JAN 27 AND ISSUED A CALL FOR RESTRAINT AND MODERATION ON THE
PART OF MOROCCO AND ALGERIA CONCERNING THE BORDER DISPUTE
OVER THE FORMER SPANISH SAHARA.

2. COMMENT: THIS DECLARATION FOLLOWS RECENT VISITS TO THE
KINGDOM BY PRINCE ABDULLAH, BROTHER OF KING HASSAN II (JAN
11-20); DR. AHMAD AL-IRAQI, MOROCCAN FONMIN (JAN 16-18) AND
BY THE MAURITANIAN MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND THE
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE (JAN 17-22).
YESTERDAY'S DECLARATION THOUGH INNOCUOUS, POINTS TO SAG'S
INCREASING WILLINGNESS TO SPEAK OUT ON ARAB
ISSUES EVEN AS FAR AWAY AS THE MAGHREB. WHILE STUDIESLY
NEUTRAL, THE PUBLIC STATEMENT LEAVES UNAFFECTED THE SAG'S
PRIVATE SUPPORT FOR THE MOROCCAN POSITION.
PORTER

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